Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9831

UNCLAS HELSINKI 0720

FOR EUR/NE PAUL CANNEY

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: OVIP, FI

SUBJECT: FINNISH BICENTENNIAL DELEGATION TO US

- 1. AS AMBASSADOR HAS MENTIONED IN TELEPHONE CONVERSATION, THE FINNISH BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE IS PLANNING TO SEND A DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERFORMANCE THERE OF THE WORLD FAMOUS TAPIOLA CHILDREN'S CHOIR. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED FROM THE FINNISH BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE THE LATEST ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS VISIT.
- 2. TEXT OF PRELIMINARY PROGRAM OF THE FINNISH BICENTENNIAL DELEGATION:

A) SUGGESTED MEMBERS OF DELEGATION: MR. PAAVO VAYRYNEN, MINISTER OF EDUCATION; MR. ULF-ERIK SLOTTE, COUNSELOR OF EMBASSY (ASSIGNED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY IN HELSINKI); MR. JUSSI SAUKKONEN, CHAIRMAN OF USA BICENTENNIAL-FINNISH COMMITTEE, FORMER MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

B) PROGRAM:

MAY 10 - ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON D.C.

MAY 11 - FORMAL PROGRAM ARRANGED BY THE EMBASSY OF FINLAND, AND AN EVENING RECEPTION WHICH ALSO THE TAPIOLA CHILDREN'S CHOIR WILL ATTEND. MAY 12 - COMPLIMENTARY CALL TO PRESIDENT GERALD FORD'S UNCLASSIFIED

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RESIDENCE -- DEPENDS ON WHETHER THERE IS ENOUGH TIME

FOR ARRANGEMENTS.

- PRESENTATION OF BICENTENNIAL MEDAL, PROFESSOR EILA HILTUNEN (SULPTRESS AND DESIGNER OF MEDAL) ALSO PRESENT.

-SONG SALUTATION BY THE TAPIOLA CHOIR.

TAPIOLA CHOIR'S EVENING CONCERT AT KENNEDY

CENTER. FINNISH DELEGATION PRESENT.

MAY 13 - VISIT TO FITCHBURG (MASSACHUSETTS) WHERE THE FINNISH IMMIGRATION EXHIBITION IS OPEN.

MAY 14 - VISIT TO CONSULATE GENERAL OF FINLAND IN NEW YORK, AND TOUR OF THE CITY.

MAY 15 - DEPARTURE FOR HELSINKI.

3. THESE ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING HANDLED IN WASHINGTON BY FINNISH EMBASSY AND HAVE THE FULL ENDORSEMENT OF FOREIGN MINISTRY HERE IN HELSINKI. MINISTER VAYRYNEN HAS ADDITIONALLY ASKED THE AMBASSADOR FOR ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING A MEETING WITH HEW SECRETARY DAVID MATHEWS. AMBASSADOR STRONGLY ENDORSES THIS REQUEST AND SUGGESTS THAT THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION BE INCLUDED IN THE MEETING IF IT CAN BE ARRANGED. PLEASE KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED OF PROGRESS ON ALL WASHINGTON APPOINTMENTS.

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TAGS: OVIP, PDEV, FI, US, FINNISH BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE, (VAYRYNEN, PAAVO), (SLOTTE, ULF-ERIK)

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